

# The Wonder Stuff

UK chart and critical darlings **The Wonder Stuff** are gearing up for the North American release of their first studio album in twelve years, *Escape From Rubbish Island* on Reincarnate Music (formerly iMUSIC). The band achieved U.S. alternative radio success with "The Size of a Cow" off of their *Never Loved Elvis* record and a fan base on these shores attracted to their witty, biting and melodic tunes. Of their twenty-two UK singles, seventeen of them reached Top 20, including a number one and four of their albums have hit the UK Top 20.

The album was released last fall in the UK and was preceded by the band's reformation over three years ago to perform live shows only. According to frontman Miles Hunt, "The support we've been shown by our audience over the years is phenomenal, particularly these last three years. I think if we'd have carried on wheeling ourselves out every Christmas, like The Gary Glitter Gang Show, with no new releases, then we'd be taking the piss. This new record is as much a thank you to those people as it is a necessity for us to write, record and play."

The line up consists of band founders Miles Hunt (vocals/guitar) and Malc Treece (guitar/vocals) with the new additions of former RDF (Radical Dance Faction) bassist Mark McCarthy and Andres Karu, former drummer for Love In Reverse. As Miles said in the summer of 2004, "It's taken a line up change, not our first admittedly, but when it comes to getting a record right, a band has gotta do what a band has gotta do."

The Wonder Stuff began recording *Escape From Rubbish Island* in January 2004 in the heart of England, also known as Shakespeare land, Stratford-Upon-Avon. With regards to the album's title, Hunt asserts, "I've been trying to get out of England for a couple of years now. I'd rather be a guest in someone else's country than feel like I bear any of the responsibilities of how our government treats Britain's population." Hunt hasn't lost his antagonistic edge matched with his knack for a melody, nor has he lost his willingness to tell it like he sees it -- "I've never been one for passivity. It makes no sense to me. I don't assume that I speak for anyone other than myself, but I have always felt the need to get shit off my chest. Lyrically, this album is my 'Dear John...' to the place I've called home for 37 years now; my desire to get away from here grows ever stronger. That sentiment is all over the record."

Hunt and company will have their wish to get out of Blighty, at least for the short term, for a U.S. tour which will commence in April of 2005, with dates TBA. Miles notes, "At the end of the 90's Malc and I travelled around the states for 8 months playing acoustic shows which went down really well. We were very pleased with the amount of people who came to see us and look forward to seeing the old audiences again as well finding new ones to pick up." Touring is a vital component for the band as Miles states, "Malc and I feed on playing live, that's why even during times that I haven't had a full band line up, I've continued to do regular one man live shows. I rate all of the Wonder Stuff records, of course, but our real strength was, and still is, playing as a live band."

Let the Escape begin.

[www.thewonderstuff.co.uk](http://www.thewonderstuff.co.uk)

## Full Length Studio Album Discography

The Eight Legged Groove Machine – 1988

Hup – 1989

Never Loved Elvis – 1991

Construction For The Modern Idiot – 1993

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